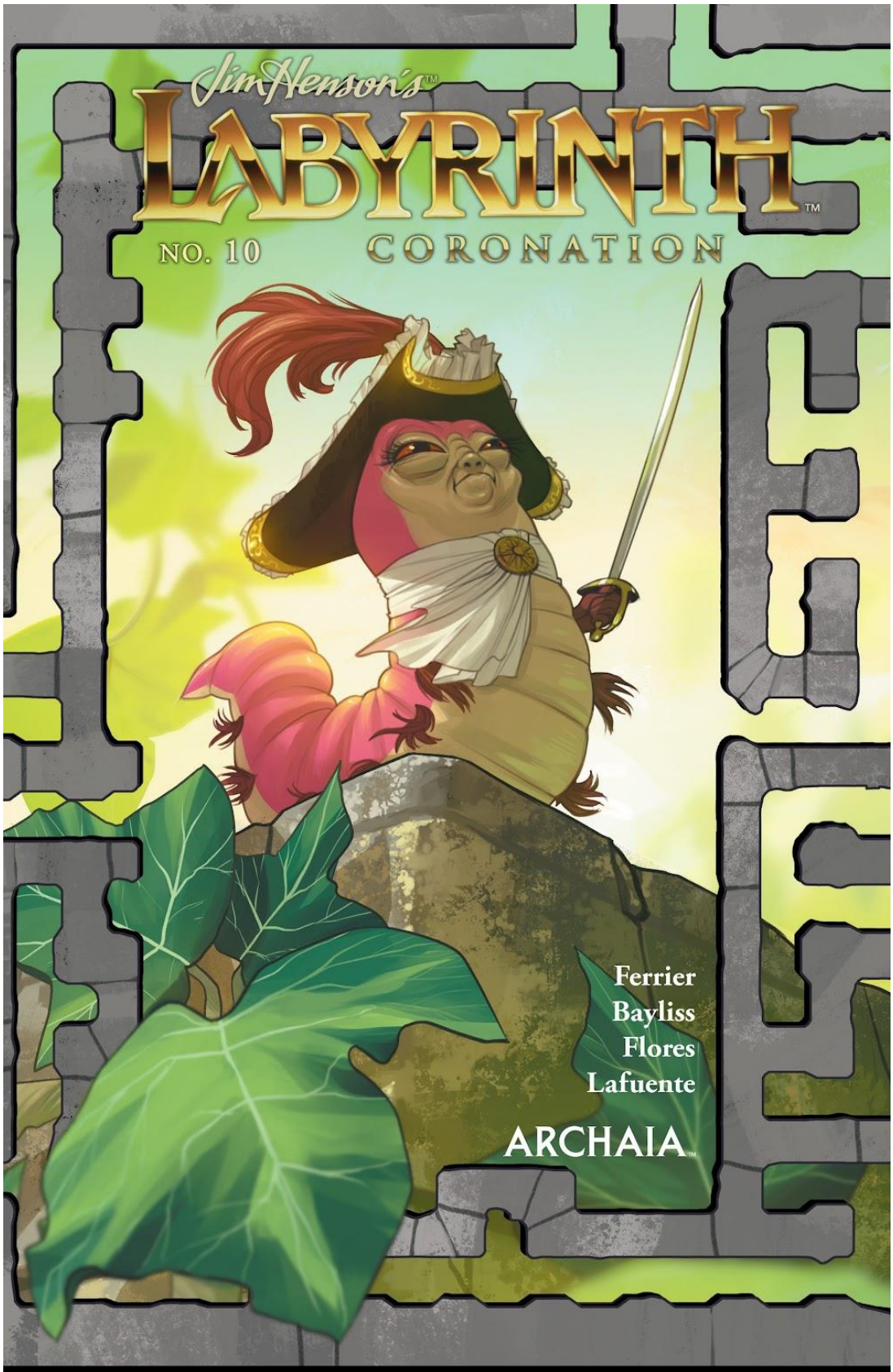

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Jim Henson's LABYRINTH CORONATION

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ARCHAIA

Jim Henson THE JIM HENSON COMPANY

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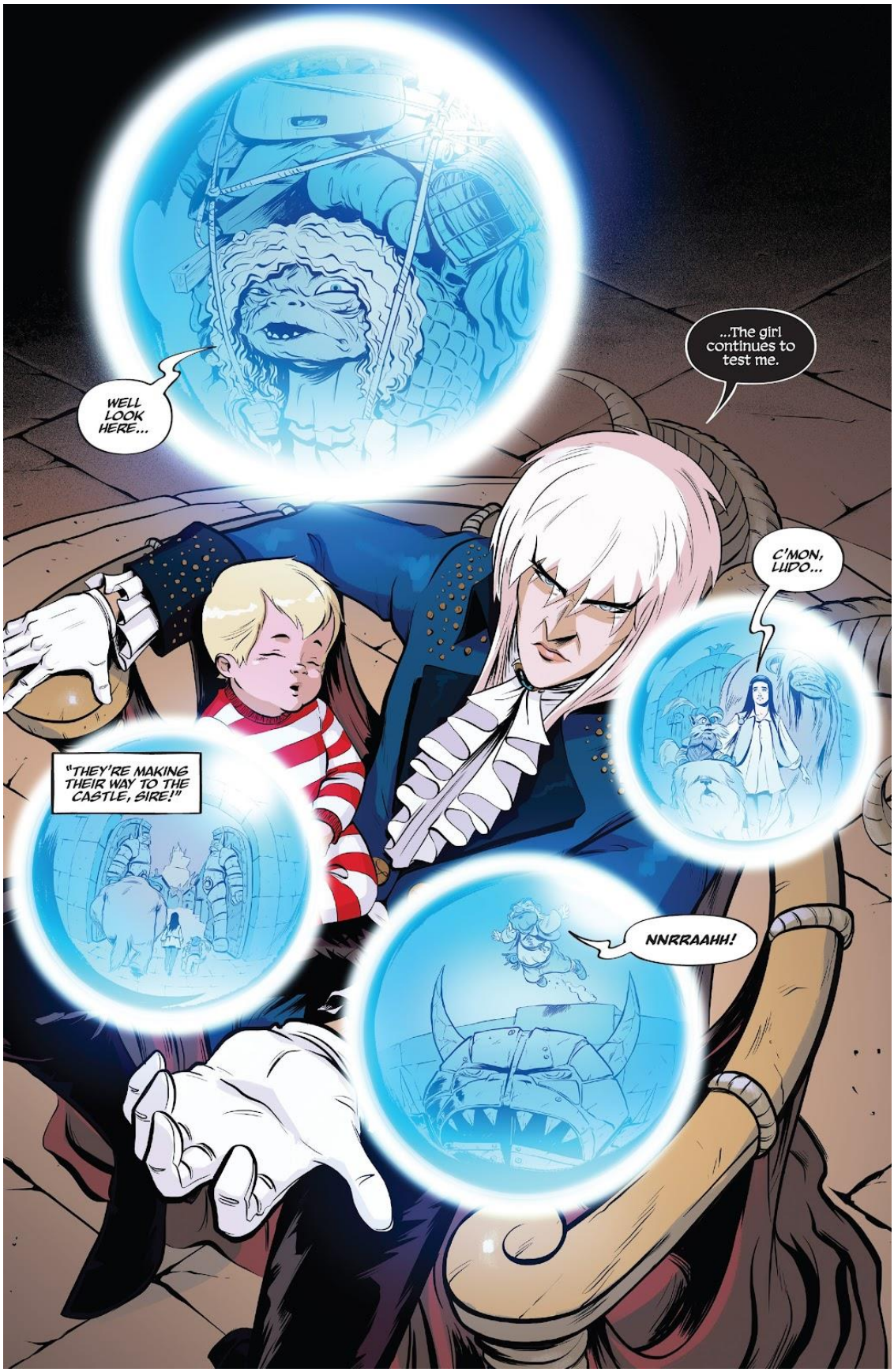
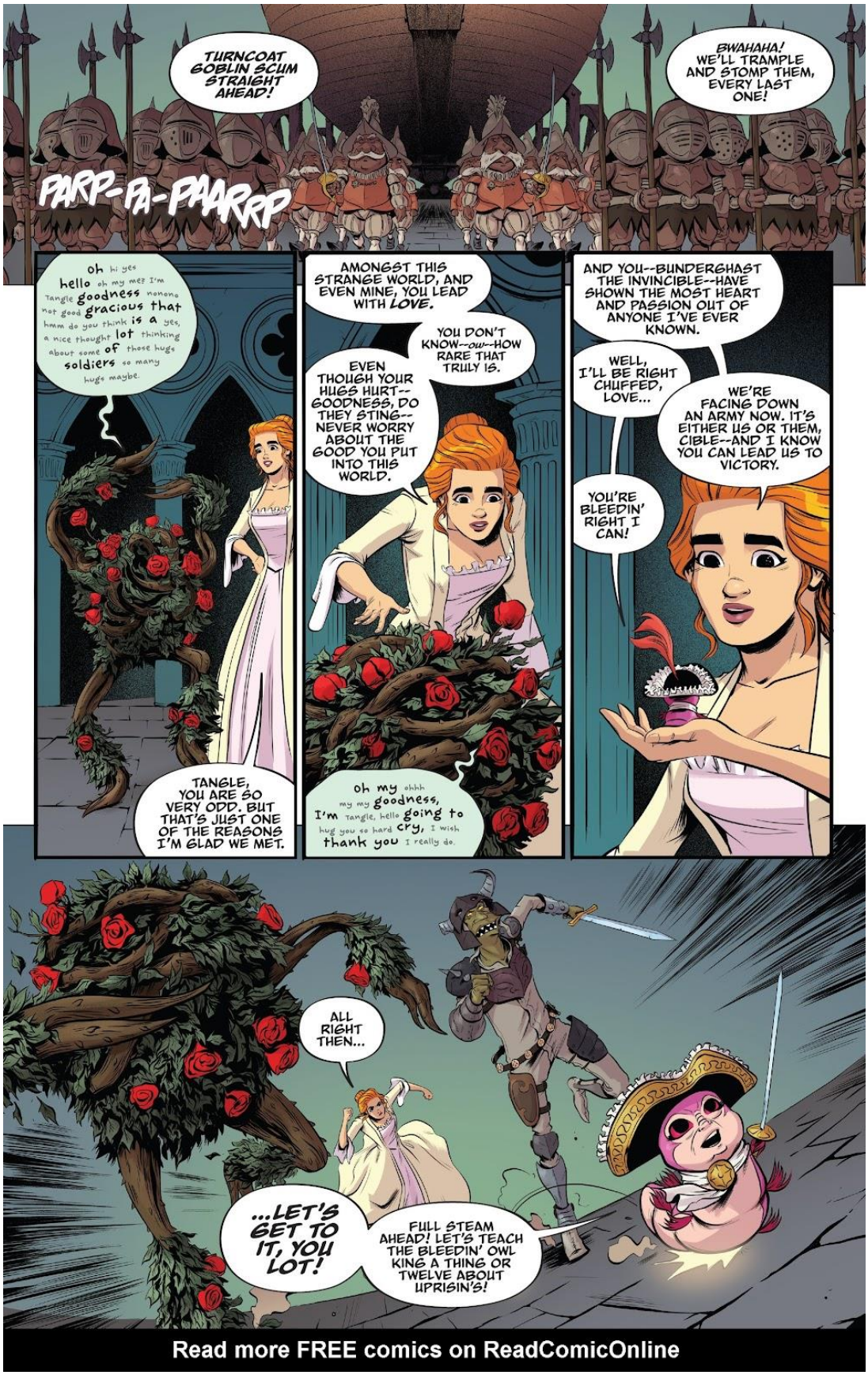
The girl, the girl--*blast the girl!*
S-SIRE... B-BACK ALREADY? YOUR SOIREE... DIDN'T GO AS PLANNED?
...
You. *Off* my chair.
I have plans with the thing, hand it over.
B-BUT SIRE, THE B-BABY SLUMBERS. MAYBE WE SH-SHOULDN'T WAKE--
Give it to me. *Now.*
spff Horrible pudge-sack.
You and I aren't done yet, Beetleglum. We must *talk,* old goblin.
T-TALK, SIRE? WHATEVER COULD YOU--
So innocent, aren't you? We have much to cover... *masks* and *secrets,* yes.
But not right now.
Right now--the *girl...*


WELL LOOK HERE...
...The girl continues to test me.
C'MON, LUDO...
"THEY'RE MAKING THEIR WAY TO THE CASTLE, SIRE!"
NNRRAAHH!

The girl--stop her!
Pull out the guards!
You. Take the baby and hide it.
Organize yourselves, for the love of--
SIRE! GIVE THE BABY TO ME! I'VE BEEN HIS CARETAKER ALL THIS TIME.
You... cannot be trusted.
CLANG
CLANG
Come on! Move! Move!
THE GIRL! THE GIRL! BY ORDER OF THE KING...

"...GET THE GIRL!"
STOP.
OI! I NEVER ORDERED A HALT! MOVE IT OR LOSE--
LOOK AHEAD. IS THAT WHAT YOU IMAGINED YOUR REBELLION'D BE UP AGAINST?
COR BLIMEY. N-NOTHIN' TA SWEAT THEN, MISS MARIA. W-WE CAN TAKE 'EM.
AT THIS POINT, WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE? ONE WAY OR ANOTHER I'M GETTING TO THAT CASTLE.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...I WANT TO THANK YOU. ALL OF YOU. SURELY, I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT EVEN THIS FAR IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU.
NONE OF YOU HAD TO HELP ME IN THIS CRAZY PLACE. BUT YOU HAVE. AND I'LL NEVER FORGET IT.
IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME MAYBE YOU'D HAVE REACHED THE CASTLE ALREADY.
OR MAYBE I WOULDN'T REACH IT AT ALL.
WE'VE ALL DONE THINGS WE REGRET. SOMETIMES, IT'S PART OF DISCOVERING WHO WE'RE REALLY MEANT TO BE.
IT'S NOT WHAT BRINGS US DOWN THAT LASTS, YOU SEE. IT'S WHAT WE DO AFTER TO MAKE IT RIGHT--THAT IS THE TRUE MEASURE OF A FRIEND... HERO...WHATEVER PATH YOU WISH TO TAKE.
YOU'RE A GOOD GOBLIN, SKUBBIN.
OH, WHY, MARIA... TH-THANK YOU.
WAIT. DO "GOOD" GOBLINS FIGHT OTHER GOBLINS? CAN A GOBLIN EVEN BE A KNIGHT?
QUICKLY, QUICKLY NOW-- A GOOD GOBLIN IS NOTHING WITHOUT THEIR ARMOR!


TURNCOAT GOBLIN SCUM STRAIGHT AHEAD!
BWAHAHA! WE'LL TRAMPLE AND STOMP THEM, EVERY LAST ONE!
PARP-PA-PAARRP
oh hi yes hello oh my me? I'm tangle goodness nonono not good gracious that hmm do you think is a yes, a nice thought lot thinking about some of those hugs soldiers so many hugs maybe.
TANGLE, YOU ARE SO VERY ODD. BUT THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE REASONS I'M GLAD WE MET.
AMONGST THIS STRANGE WORLD, AND EVEN MINE, YOU LEAD WITH LOVE.
YOU DON'T KNOW--ow--HOW RARE THAT TRULY IS.
EVEN THOUGH YOUR HUGS HURT--GOODNESS, DO THEY STING--NEVER WORRY ABOUT THE GOOD YOU PUT INTO THIS WORLD.
oh my ohhh my my goodness, I'm tangle, hello going to hug you so hard cry, I wish thank you I really do.
AND YOU--BUNDERGHAST THE INVINCIBLE--HAVE SHOWN THE MOST HEART AND PASSION OUT OF ANYONE I'VE EVER KNOWN.
WELL, I'LL BE RIGHT CHUFFED, LOVE...
WE'RE FACING DOWN AN ARMY NOW. IT'S EITHER US OR THEM, CIBLE--AND I KNOW YOU CAN LEAD US TO VICTORY.
YOU'RE BLEEDIN' RIGHT I CAN!
ALL RIGHT THEN...
...LET'S GET TO IT, YOU LOT!
FULL STEAM AHEAD! LET'S TEACH THE BLEEDIN' OWL KING A THING OR TWELVE ABOUT UPRISIN'S!

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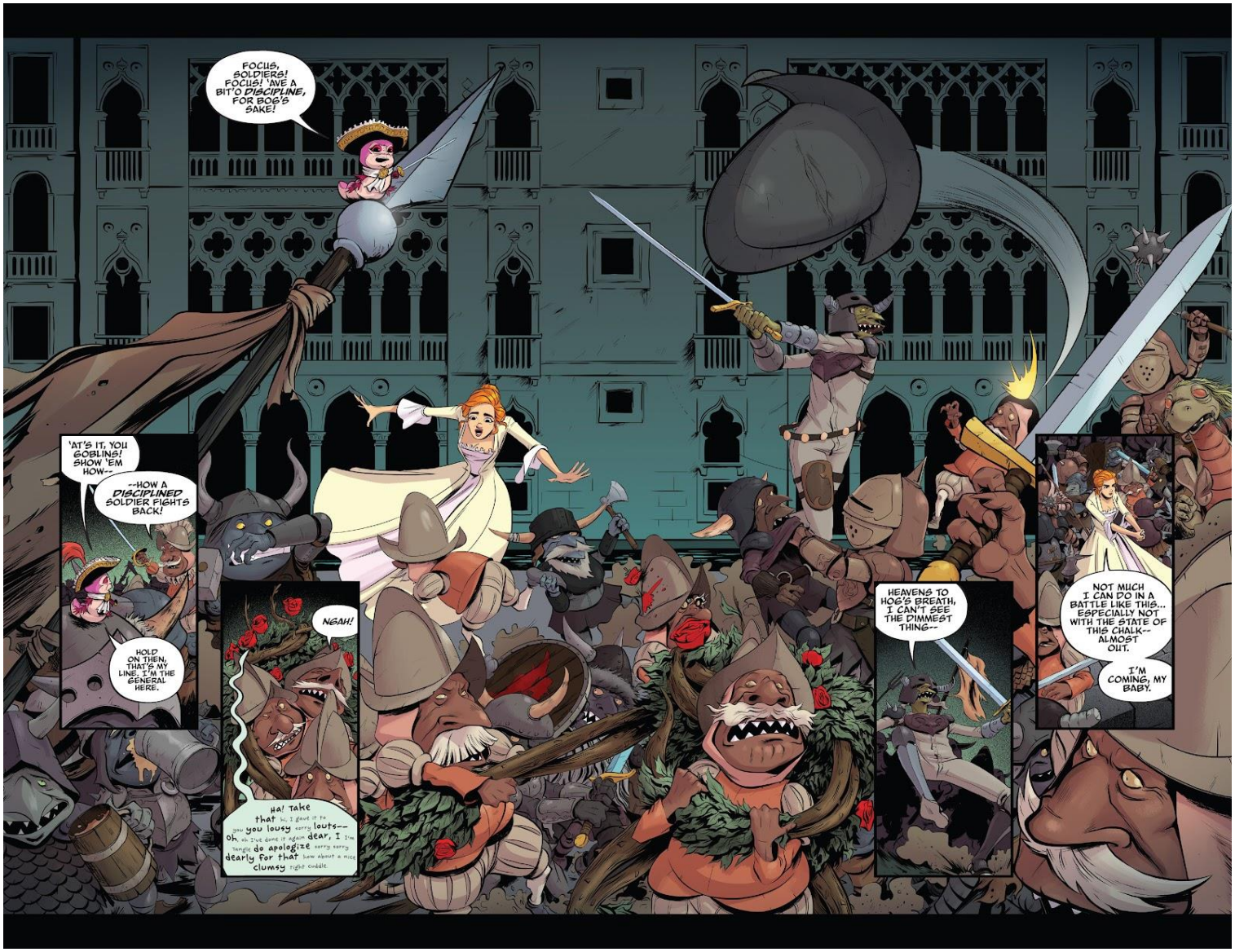
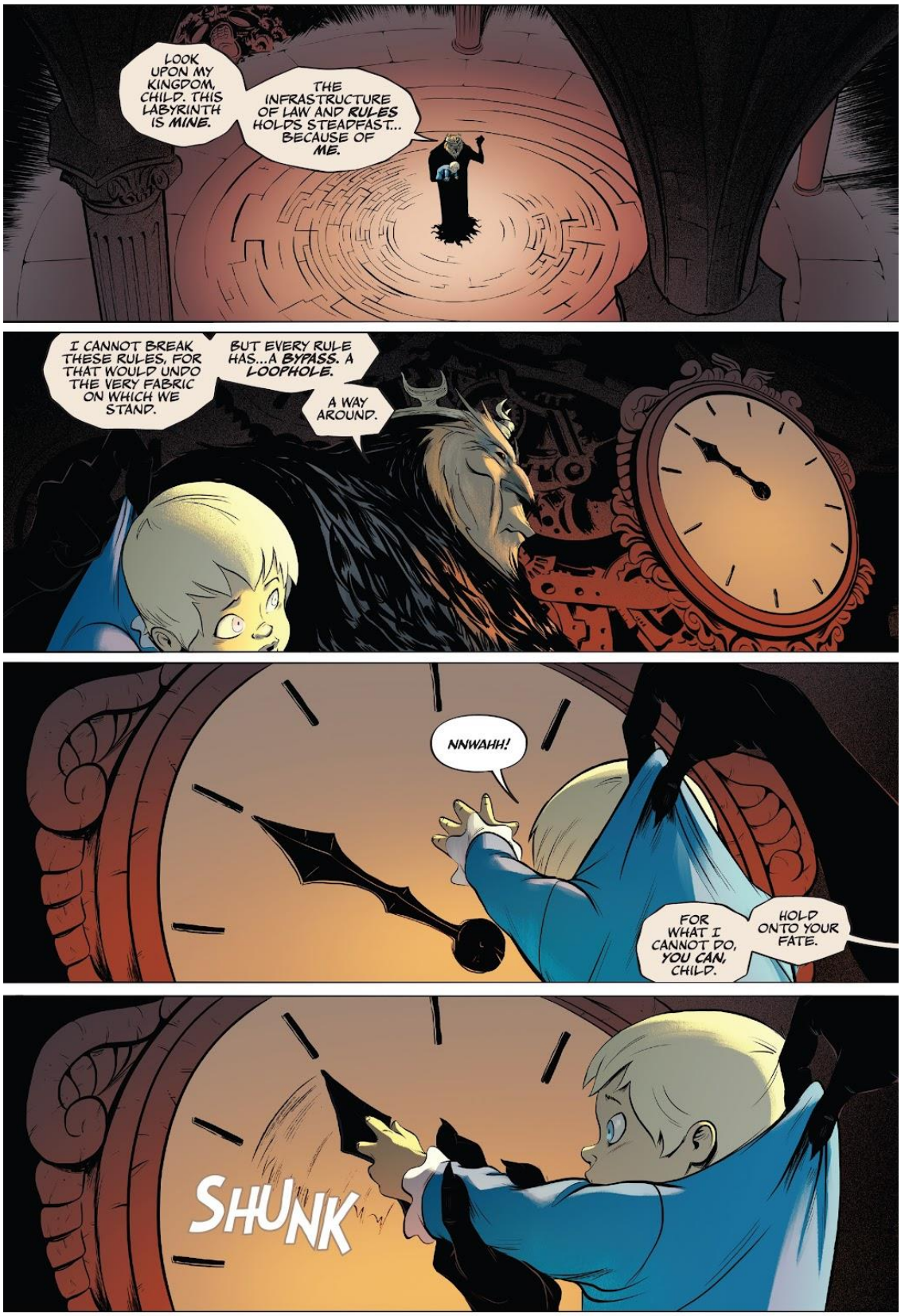
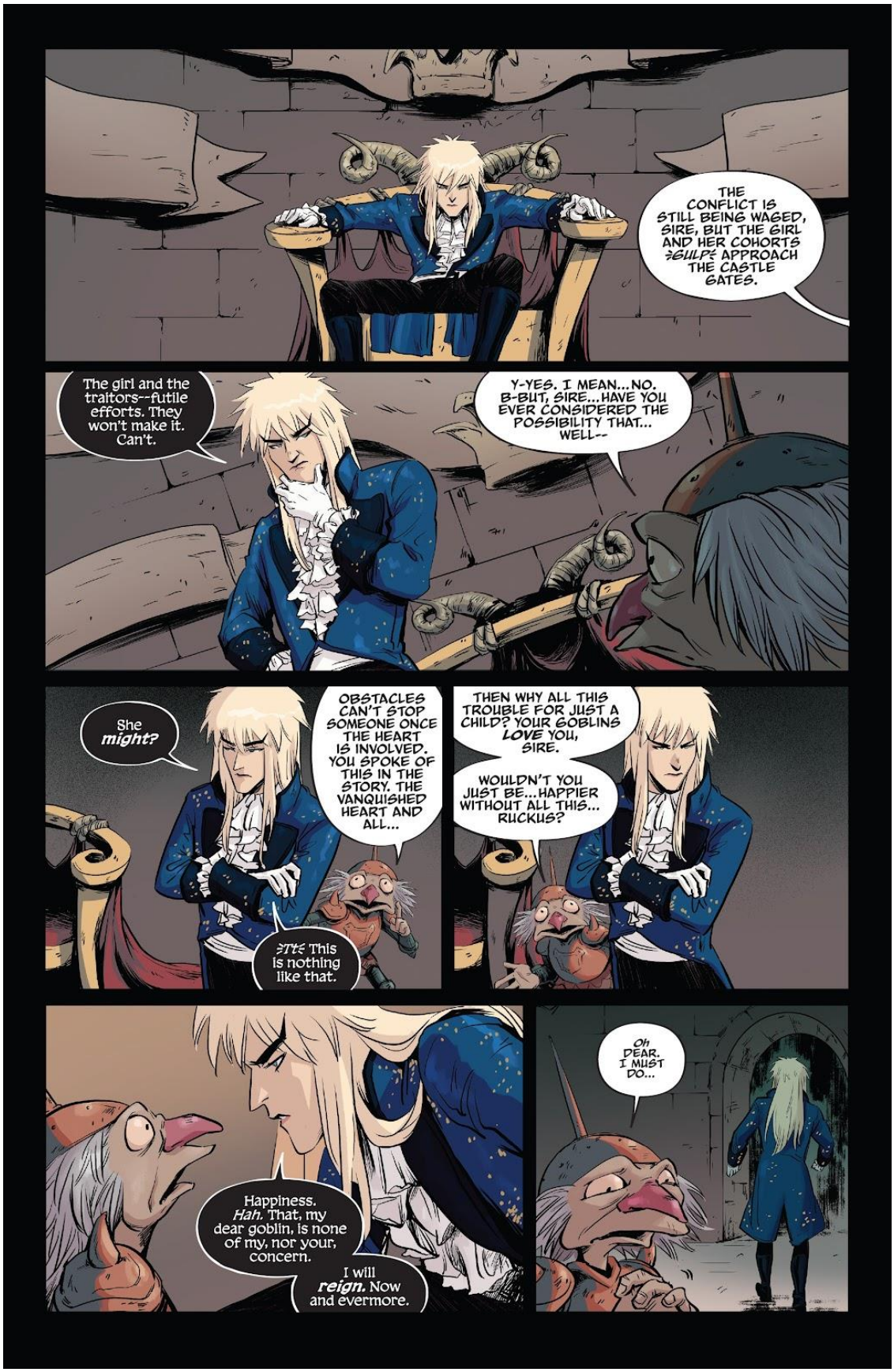
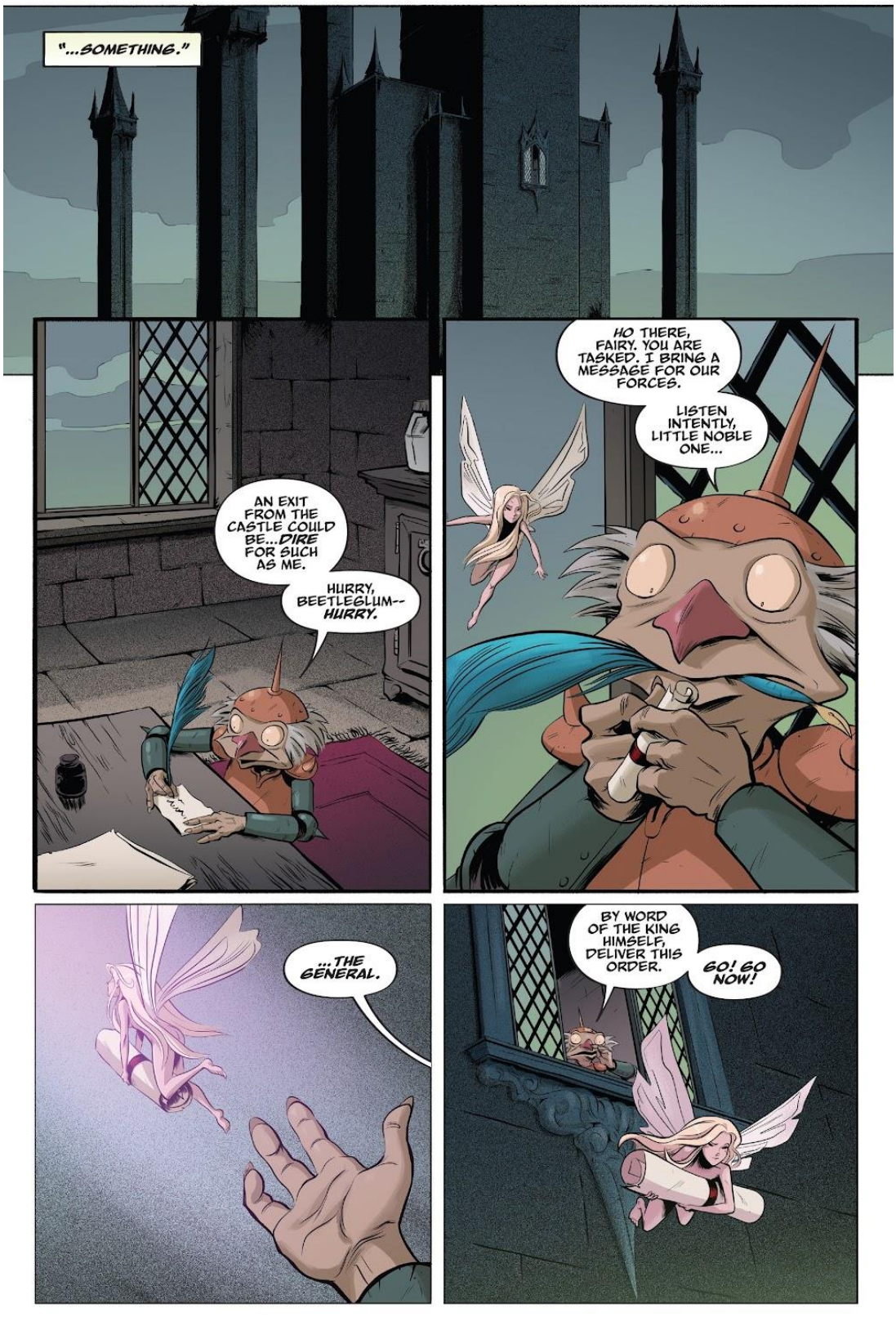

FOCUS, SOLDIERS! FOCUS! 'AVE A BIT'O DISCIPLINE, FOR BOG'S SAKE!
'AT'S IT, YOU GOBLINS! SHOW 'EM HOW--
--HOW A DISCIPLINED SOLDIER FIGHTS BACK!
HOLD ON THEN, THAT'S MY LINE. I'M THE GENERAL HERE.
NGAH!
Ha! Take that you lousy louts-- Oh, you've done it again dear, I'm sorry do apologize dearly for that clumsy
HEAVENS TO HOG'S BREATH, I CAN'T SEE THE DIMMEST THING--
NOT MUCH I CAN DO IN A BATTLE LIKE THIS... ESPECIALLY NOT WITH THE STATE OF THIS CHALK-- ALMOST OUT.
I'M COMING, MY BABY.

...FOR ALL THE WENCH HAS ENDURED SO FAR, SHE MIGHT ACTUALLY--
S-SUCCEED, SIRE?
ONLY MIGHT. SHE IS BUT A WAIF IN MY KINGDOM.
TWO HOURS REMAIN BEFORE I AM ABLE TO SIPHON THE MEWLING MEAT SACK'S TIME. YOU'VE HELD THE INFANT LONG ENOUGH, GOBLIN.
ERR...BUT SIRE--
MY TROOPS WASTE VALUABLE TIME WITH THE SO-CALLED "REBELLION." NOTHING MORE THAN MISCREANTS AND TRAITOROUS HOODLUMS.
B-BUT GOBLINS ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR TENACITY, SIRE.
I CARE NOT FOR THE GOBLINS. SEND A SIGNAL TO MY GENERAL-- CONCENTRATE ALL OFFENSIVE EFFORTS ON THE GIRL.
SHE IS LINKED TO THE CHILD. RIP THAT DAMNED CHALK FROM HER HANDS.
STRIP HER OF THE DWINDLING POWER SHE MERELY THINKS SHE POSSESSES.

SO FRAGILE NOW. SO BLISSFULLY GLIB. I COULD BREAK YOU IN HALF. YOUR TIME WILL BE MINE, AND I WILL CONQUER YOUR PITIFUL FAILINGS.
UNBREAKABLE. INCAPABLE OF DEFEAT.
=HRRM=
DESPITE YOUR POOR MOTHER'S INTENTIONS... MY WILL IS INDELIBLE.
NOW AND EVERMORE, I WILL REIGN!
GWWAAHH!
WAHH WAHHH!
SOMETHING, SOMETHING... THINK, BEETLEGLUM-- YOU MUST DO SOMETHING.


LOOK UPON MY KINGDOM, CHILD. THIS LABYRINTH IS MINE.
THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF LAW AND RULES HOLDS STEADFAST... BECAUSE OF ME.
I CANNOT BREAK THESE RULES, FOR THAT WOULD UNDO THE VERY FABRIC ON WHICH WE STAND.
BUT EVERY RULE HAS...A BYPASS. A LOOPHOLE.
A WAY AROUND.
NNWAHH!
FOR WHAT I CANNOT DO, YOU CAN, CHILD.
HOLD ONTO YOUR FATE.
SHUNK


THE CONFLICT IS STILL BEING WAGED, SIRE, BUT THE GIRL AND HER COHORTS >GULP< APPROACH THE CASTLE GATES.
The girl and the traitors--futile efforts. They won't make it. Can't.
Y-YES. I MEAN...NO. B-BUT, SIRE...HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT... WELL--
She *might?*
OBSTACLES CAN'T STOP SOMEONE ONCE THE HEART IS INVOLVED. YOU SPOKE OF THIS IN THE STORY. THE VANQUISHED HEART AND ALL...
>TT< This is nothing like that.
THEN WHY ALL THIS TROUBLE FOR JUST A CHILD? YOUR GOBLINS *LOVE* YOU, SIRE.
WOULDN'T YOU JUST BE...HAPPIER WITHOUT ALL THIS... RUCKUS?
Happiness. *Hah.* That, my dear goblin, is none of my, nor your, concern.
I will ***reign.*** Now and evermore.
OH DEAR. I MUST DO...


"...SOMETHING."
AN EXIT FROM THE CASTLE COULD BE...DIRE FOR SUCH AS ME.
HURRY, BEETLEGLUM--HURRY.
HO THERE, FAIRY. YOU ARE TASKED. I BRING A MESSAGE FOR OUR FORCES.
LISTEN INTENTLY, LITTLE NOBLE ONE...
...THE GENERAL.
BY WORD OF THE KING HIMSELF, DELIVER THIS ORDER.
GO! GO NOW!

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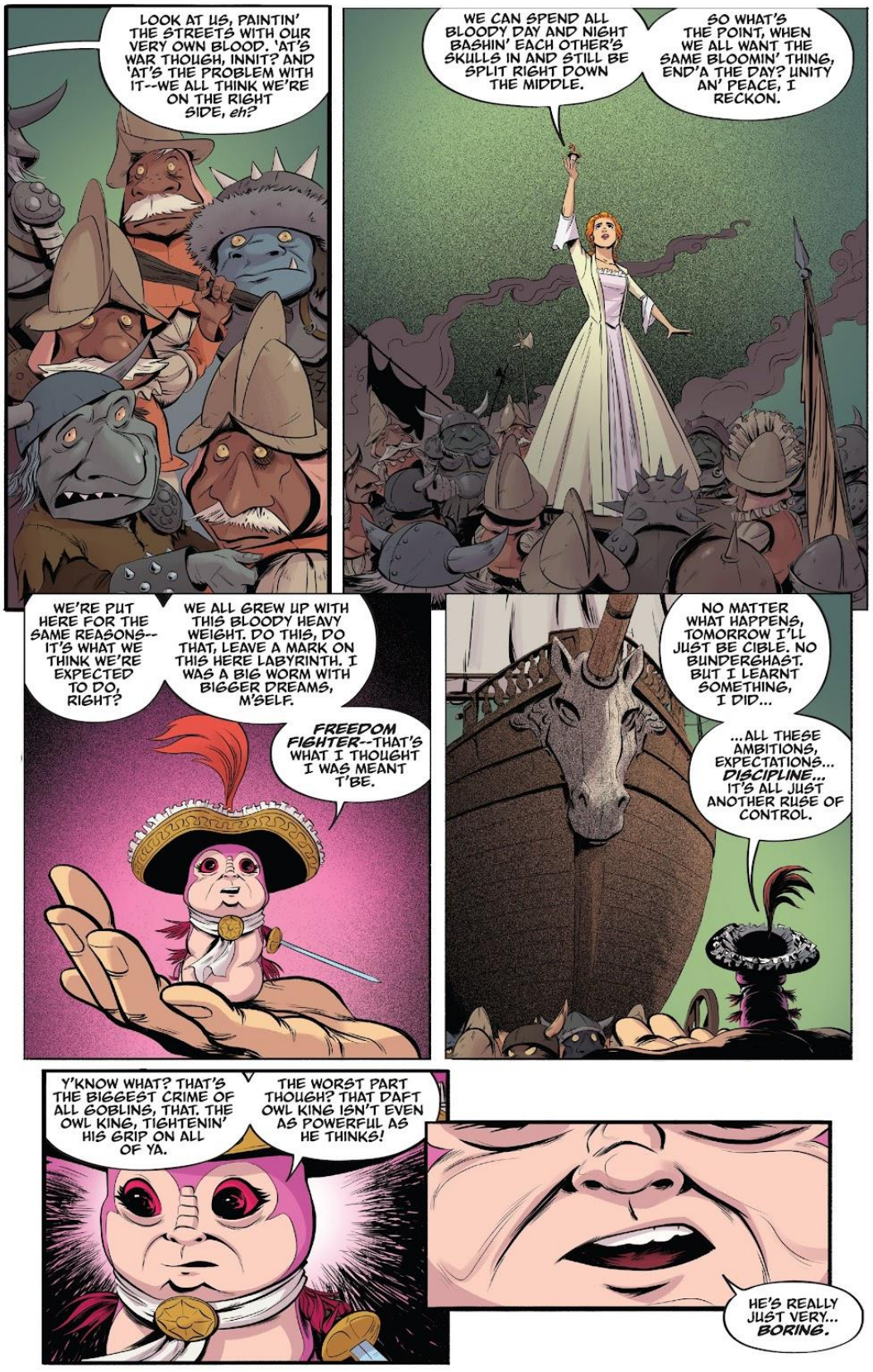
G-GODSPEED, FAIRY.
THE OWL KING... DOES HE KNOW?
GIVE 'EM EVERTHIN' YOU GOT, SOLDIERS! GIVE 'EM--
...THAT YOU ARE A ROTTEN TRAITOR?
Leave the girl.
Your Majesty.
GGRRAAH! HOW LONG HAVE YOU DEFILED OUR KING'S TRUST?
YOU CANNOT OUTRUN YOUR FATE, FINK! YOU'LL BE GRIT FOR MY TEETH OR THE KING'S BOOT HEEL SOON ENOUGH...
=HUFF=
=HUFF=
=HUFF=

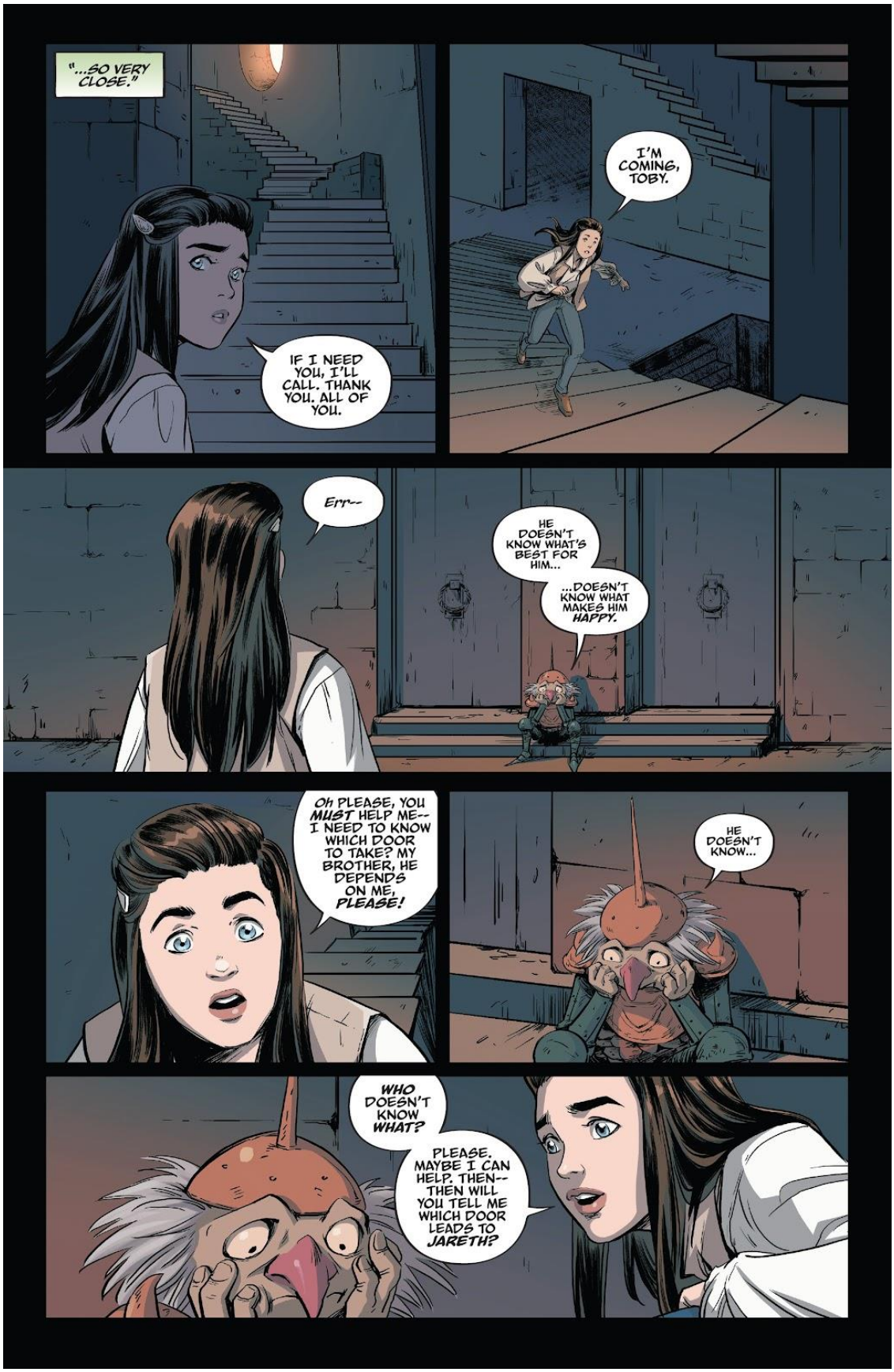
BWAHAHA! 'TIS A FINE DAY FOR A BATTLE! FOR FREEDOM! FOR--
--EQUALITY! FOR JUSTICE!
SO MUCH FOR A QUICK ESCAPE... THEY JUST KEEP COMING.
COLOR ME ODDLY SURPRISED... WE KEEP GIVING IT RIGHT BACK. WE'RE MORE VALIANT THAN I THOUGHT!
ANY SURPRISE WAR SHIPS WAITING IN THE WINGS OF THE REBELLION, CIBLE?
ONLY THING GONNA WIN THIS ONE IS THE FIRE IN OUR HEARTS, I RECKON.
I'VE GOT JUST THE THING THAT OUGHT'A PEP THESE GOBLINS UP TO--
--PUSH THROUGH!
THAT POMPOUS HEEL'S STEALIN' ME THUNDER, SO HE IS. WARS'RE WON BY SOLDIERS NOT--
--DRAMA AND THEATRICS! SO PUT YOUR BACKS INTO IT, THEN!
OH DEARY. IS THAT HOW I'VE BEEN SOUNDIN'? LIKE THE BLEEDIN' KING HISSELF?
HOIST ME UP, MARIA!
OI! LISTEN UP!


LOOK AT US, PAINTIN' THE STREETS WITH OUR VERY OWN BLOOD. 'AT'S WAR THOUGH, INNIT? AND 'AT'S THE PROBLEM WITH IT--WE ALL THINK WE'RE ON THE RIGHT SIDE, *eh?*
WE CAN SPEND ALL BLOODY DAY AND NIGHT BASHIN' EACH OTHER'S SKULLS IN AND STILL BE SPLIT RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE.
SO WHAT'S THE POINT, WHEN WE ALL WANT THE SAME BLOOMIN' THING, END'A THE DAY? UNITY AN' PEACE, I RECKON.
WE'RE PUT HERE FOR THE SAME REASONS-- IT'S WHAT WE THINK WE'RE EXPECTED TO DO, RIGHT?
WE ALL GREW UP WITH THIS BLOODY HEAVY WEIGHT. DO THIS, DO THAT, LEAVE A MARK ON THIS HERE LABYRINTH. I WAS A BIG WORM WITH BIGGER DREAMS, M'SELF.
FREEDOM FIGHTER--THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT I WAS MEANT T'BE.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, TOMORROW I'LL JUST BE CIBLE. NO BUNDERGHAST. BUT I LEARNT SOMETHING, I DID...
...ALL THESE AMBITIONS, EXPECTATIONS... ***DISCIPLINE...*** IT'S ALL JUST ANOTHER RUSE OF CONTROL.
Y'KNOW WHAT? THAT'S THE BIGGEST CRIME OF ALL GOBLINS, THAT. THE OWL KING, TIGHTENIN' HIS GRIP ON ALL OF YA.
THE WORST PART THOUGH? THAT DAFT OWL KING ISN'T EVEN AS POWERFUL AS HE THINKS!
HE'S REALLY JUST VERY... ***BORING.***

SHE...SHE'S RIGHT.
WE 'AVEN'T HAD ANY FUN AT ALL AS OF LATE.
WAHHEY! LET'S PARTY!
NO RULES, NO LAW, GOBLIN PARTY FOR ALL!
OI! STOP THAT THIS INSTANT! WE'RE S'POSED TO BE BATTLIN' FER OUR FREEDOM! EQUALITY!
SING AND DRINK! DANCE AND SHOUT!
NO MORE RULES, BA HA! NO MORE NOTHING!
YOUR SPEECH...WORKED. YOU ROUSED THEM ALL INTO UNITY. WELL DONE, GENERAL.
I...I DON'T GET IT.
ALL THIS TIME I THOUGHT I WAS LEADIN' SOLDIERS TO BATTLE. TO FIGHT THE BLOODY POWERS. THINKIN' THAT OUGHT'A STOKE THE FLAMES OF CHANGE 'ROUND 'ERE.
GRIPIN' AND PRATTLIN' ALL DAY AN' NIGHT ABOUT FREEDOM...
WHEN ALL THEY WANTED WAS THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE-- FUN.
AYE. GOOD OL' FASHION, LAWLESS FUN.
THE ONE THING THE OWL KING HATES, CIBLE. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS? YOU CAN MAKE IT.
YES, MARIA...
THE CASTLE. I NEED TO--
...AND WE WILL TAKE YOU.
THAT WE WILL, LOVE. TOGETHER.
"RUN. GO ON THEN. GET YOUR WEE ONE.
"DON'T STOP."
"WE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU."

OH DEAR.
I'M SO CLOSE...


"...SO VERY CLOSE."
IF I NEED YOU, I'LL CALL. THANK YOU. ALL OF YOU.
I'M COMING, TOBY.
Err--
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR HIM...
...DOESN'T KNOW WHAT MAKES HIM HAPPY.
Oh PLEASE, YOU MUST HELP ME-- I NEED TO KNOW WHICH DOOR TO TAKE? MY BROTHER, HE DEPENDS ON ME, PLEASE!
HE DOESN'T KNOW...
WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHAT?
PLEASE. MAYBE I CAN HELP. THEN-- THEN WILL YOU TELL ME WHICH DOOR LEADS TO JARETH?

JARETH. EXACTLY. HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR HIM. BUT I DO! I KNOW WHAT MAKES HIM HAPPY.
I WAS, AFTER ALL, COMMANDED. A KING'S CHARGE. A LIFE DUTY.
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE FOR TOBY. I CAN MAKE IT RIGHT, IF YOU'LL HELP ME.
HE'S A GOOD ONE, THE BABY. ⁄SIGH⁄ SUCH A LOVELY WEE FELLA.
YOU KNOW HIM?
YOUR BROTHER, YOUNG LADY...
...IS THAT WAY.
To be continued...